

Charles Bampfylde

Sir Charles Warwick Bampfylde, 5th Baronet (23 January 1753 – 19 April 1823)^[1] of Poltimore in Devon, was a British politician who served twice as Member of Parliament for Exeter, in 1774–1790 and 1796–1812.^[2]

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Arms of Bampfylde: *Or, on a bend gules three mullets argent*

Origins

He was the eldest surviving son of Sir Richard Bampfylde, 4th Baronet by his wife Jane Codrington (d. 1789), daughter and heiress of Colonel John Codrington of Charlton House,^[3] Wraxall, Somerset, near Bristol.^[4] He was baptised at St Augustine the Less Church, Bristol in Gloucestershire.^[5]



Poltimore House, seat of the Bampfylde family

Career

Bampfylde was educated at New College, Oxford and was awarded the degree of Doctor of Civil Law (DCL).^[5] In 1776, he succeeded his father as baronet.^[6] He was High Sheriff of Somerset for 1820–21 after the death in office of Gerard Berkeley Napier.

Between 1774 and 1790 Bampfylde sat as Member of Parliament for Exeter.^[7] From 1796 he represented the constituency in the Parliament of Great Britain until the Act of Union in 1801, then in the Parliament of the United Kingdom until 1812.^[7]

Marriage and progeny

On 9 February 1776, at St James's Church, Piccadilly, he married Catharine Moore, eldest daughter of Admiral Sir John Moore, 1st Baronet,^[8] by whom he had two sons and a daughter.^[8]

- George Bampfylde, 1st Baron Poltimore (1786–1858), eldest son and heir, in 1831 elevated to the peerage as Baron Poltimore.
- Rev. Charles Bampfylde, a priest.^[9]
- Louisa Bampfylde, wife of Lieutenant Edward Wells, Royal Navy.^[10]



Lady Bampfylde by Sir Joshua Reynolds, c.1776, Tate Modern, London

Murder attempt and death

On 7 April 1823 a shot was fired at Bampfylde in front of his house at Montagu Square in London by a jealous ex-servant, whose wife was still working in Bampfylde's household.^[11] After he had seen his shot hitting Bampfylde, the man killed himself with a second pistol.^[11]

Bampfylde survived, but died two weeks later.^[8] An autopsy showed that the shot itself had passed the lungs and had come to a stillstand between the ribs, however that with the bullet also a little piece of his braces had entered the body and had effected a deadly gangrene.^[12] Bampfylde was buried at Hardington in Somerset.^[12]

Succession

His elder son George Bampfylde, 1st Baron Poltimore succeeded to the baronetcy and was later elevated to the peerage as Baron Poltimore.^[6]

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External links

- Hansard 1803–2005: contributions in Parliament by Sir Charles Bampfylde, 5th Baronet (<https://api.parliament.uk/historic-hansard/people/sir-charles-bampfylde>)
 - Burial record on findagrave.org (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/71593009/charles-warwick-bampfylde>)
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